Barcia Barrett (NE) Barrett (WI) Barton Bass Bateman Becerra Bentsen Bereuter Berkley Berman Berry Biggert Bishop Blagojevich Bliley Blumenauer Blunt Boehlert Boehner Bonior Borski Boswell Boucher Boyd Brady (PA) Brown (FL) Brown (OH) Burr Buver Callahan Calvert Camp Capps Capuano Cardin Carson Castle Chambliss Clay Clement Clyburn Condit Convers Cooksey Costello Cox Coyne Cramer Crowley Cummings Cunningham Davis (FL) Davis (IL Davis (VA) Deal DeFazio DeGette Delahunt Lee DeLauro DeLav Deutsch Diaz-Balart Dicks Dingell Dixon Doggett Dooley Doyle Dreier Dunn Edwards Ehlers Ehrlich Emerson English Eshoo Etheridge Evans Everett Farr Fattah Filner Fletcher Foley Forbes Ford Fossella Fowler Frank (MA) Franks (NJ) Frelinghuysen Frost Gallegly Gejdenson Gekas Gephardt Gilchrest Moore Moran (KS) Gillmor

Moran (VA) Gilman Morella Gonzalez Gordon Murtha Goss Nadler Granger Napolitano Green (TX) Neal Ney Northup Green (WI) Greenwood Gutierrez Norwood Gutknecht Nussle Hall (OH) Oberstar Hansen Obey Hastings (FL) Ortiz Hill (IN) Ose Hilliard Owens Hinchey Oxley Packard Hinojosa Pallone Hobson Pascrell Hoeffel Holden Pastor Hooley Payne Houghton Peterson (PA) Hoyer Hunter Phelps Pickering Hutchinson Hyde Pickett Inslee Pomerov Isakson Porter Jackson (IL) Portman Jackson-Lee Price (NC) (TX) Pryce (OH) Jefferson John Rahall Johnson (CT) Rangel Johnson, E. B. Regula Johnson, Sam Reyes Jones (OH) Reynolds Kanjorski Riley Kaptur Rivers Kellv Rodriguez Kennedy Roemer Kildee Rogers Kilpatrick Rothman Roukema Kind (WI) King (NY) Roybal-Allard Kleczka Rush Klink Ryan (WI) Knollenberg Ryun (KS) Kolbe Sabo Kuykendall Sanchez LaFalce Sanders Lampson Sandlin Lantos Sawyer Schakowsky Latham LaTourette Scott Lazio Serrano Leach Shaw Sherman Levin Sherwood Lewis (CA) Shimkus Lewis (GA) Shows Simpson Linder Lipinski Sisisky Lowey Skeen Lucas (KY) Skelton Luther Slaughter Maloney (CT) Smith (MI) Maloney (NY) Smith (NJ) Smith (TX) Markey Martinez Smith (WA) Mascara Snyder Matsui Spence McCarthy (MO) Spratt McCarthy (NY) Stabenow McCollum Stark McCrery Stearns McDermott Stenholm McGovern Strickland McHugh Stupak McInnis Sweeney McIntosh Talent McIntyre Tanner McKeon Tauscher Taylor (MS) McNulty Meehan Meek (FL) Thomas Thompson (CA) Meeks (NY) Thompson (MS) Menendez Thornberry Millender-Thune McDonald Thurman Miller (FL) Tiahrt Miller, George Tierney Minge Toomey Mink Moakley Towns Traficant Mollohan Turner Udall (CO)

Udall (NM)

Upton Velazquez Waxman Wilson Weiner Wise Weldon (PA) Vento Wolf Visclosky Weller Woolsey Wu Walden Wexler Walsh Weygand Wynn Young (AK) Young (FL) Waters Whitfield Watt (NC) Wicker

NOT VOTING-9

Dickey Holt Bono Brown (CA) Lofgren Engel Olver Clayton Hilleary

□ 1443

Messrs. FRANKS of New Jersey, NEY, and BLAGOJEVICH changed their vote from "aye" to "no." Messrs. SHAYS, WATTS of Okla-

homa, HERGER, PITTS, HULSHOF, EWING, GARY MILLER of California, SCARBOROUGH, SUNUNU, and Ms. McKINNEY changed their vote from 'no" to "aye."

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, I was unavoidably detained on official business in my congressional district in central New Jersey. During that time, I missed three rollcall votes.

Had I been here, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 185 and "no" on rollcall Nos. 186 and 187.

The CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 19 printed in Part A of House Report 106-175.

AMENDMENT NO. 19 OFFERED BY MR. SKELTON

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as fol-

Part A amendment No. 19 offered by Mr. SKELTON:

In section 1006-

- (1) strike subsection (a) (page 270, lines 21 through 24);
- (2) in the section heading (page 270, line 20), strike "**BUDGETING FOR**" and insert 'SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS RE-QUEST FOR"; and
- (3) in subsection (b), strike "(b) SUPPLE-MENTAL APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FOR OPER-ATIONS IN YUGOSLAVIA.—

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 200, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) and a Member opposed each will control 15 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON).

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I find it rather ironic; no, I find it rather sad that in the wake of a military victory for America and for the NATO forces, we find ourselves in this excellent authorization bill discussing language that cuts off funding for the troops on September 30 of this vear.

□ 1445

The amendment which I offer will delete subsection A of section 1006, while leaving in place subsection B. Subsection B requires the President to request supplemental appropriations in

order to conduct combat or peacekeeping operations in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Subsection B, standing alone, adequately protects the funding authorized by this bill without running the risk of undermining America's and NATO's military and peacekeeping efforts in Kosovo.

Mr. Chairman, 2 weeks ago, when we were first scheduled to take this bill up, I would have argued that the language in this bill sent the wrong message at the wrong time. Now the withdrawal of Serb forces, which is under way from Kosovo today, the message that we would send by rejecting my amendment would be a horrific message. The timing of the message would make it even worse.

We must pass this amendment so that we can proceed further and not cut off the troops for the wonderful job that they have done. We cannot cut them off on September 30 of this year.

Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ORTIZ).

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the Skelton amendment to the defense authorization bill, an amendment this House should pass for many reasons.

The gentleman's amendment strips the present language out of the bill which prohibits funds being expended in Yugoslavia after September 30, 1999. The current language in the bill does not reflect the best that this country and this Congress can offer in our de-

fense policy bill.

The House Committee on Armed Services struggled long and hard to get this bill to the floor. It is generally an outstanding bill, a very good bill. But this language will garner a presidential veto, and our purpose here is to pass a bill that the President will sign, as well as safeguard our troops and the security interests of the United States of America.

Leaving the restrictive language on Yugoslavia in this bill puts its passage in jeopardy, and that is bad enough. But worse, it puts our troops in jeopardy, those young men and women fighting for the strategic interests of the United States.

Mr. Chairman, we cannot try to run this conflict, this war, like we run a regular business. We cannot do that. We are dealing with a man who is a vicious killer. Soldiers in the field, I do not think will appreciate it if we do not support this amendment.

Lastly, we would be terribly ill-advised to include this language in our bill because it sends a mixed message to Milosevic, the latest hate-monger of the 20th century. The very last person to whom we want to provide aid and comfort is Milosevic, a devoted enemy of peace in Central Europe.

I urge my friends and colleagues to

support this amendment.

Mr. Chairman, the Government of the Republic of China announced on June 7 that it would provide a grant aid equivalent to about US\$300 million to help the Kosovar refugees. The aid will consist of emergency support for food, shelters, medical care, and education for